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By Tony Arnold

Illinois U.S. Congressman Mark Kirk says there's a new strain of highly potent marijuana hitting Chicago's suburbs and he wants to crack down on dealers.

The slang name for the special strain of marijuana is kush. It's grown specifically to be more potent than regular marijuana.

KIRK: This is not your father's marijuana here.

Congressman Mark Kirk made his announcement in a federal courtroom in downtown Chicago, where the smell of some kush recently seized by suburban police overwhelmed the typically neutral courtroom. Kirk says he wants stricter penalties for dealers selling kush.

KIRK: We have heard the drug dealers say that they are moving to the sale of kush because its penalties are so low.

Kirk's proposed legislation would send dealers to jail for up to 25 years. Meantime, the head of an Illinois group pushing to reform marijuana laws says increasing the jail time for kush dealers won't deter them from selling the more potent pot - as long as there's still a demand.